

NOMENCLATRURAL COMBINATION IN POACEAE

Joseph K. Wipff & Stanley D. Jones

Herbarium (BRCH), Botanical Research Center, P.O. Box 6717, Bryan, Texas  
77805-6717 U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

The following nomenclatural change in Poaceae is proposed:  
*Sporobolus compositus* var. *clandestinus* (J. Biehler) *comb. nov.*

KEY WORDS: *Sporobolus*, nomenclature, Poaceae

*Sporobolus compositus* (J. Poiret) E. Merrill var. *clandestinus* (J. Biehler) J. Wipff & S.D. Jones, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Agrostis clandestina* J. Biehler, *Plantarum Novarum ex Herbario Sprengelii Centuriam* 8. 1807. *Muhlenbergia clandestina* (J. Biehler) K. von Trinius, *De Graminibus Unifloris et Sesquifloris* 190. 1824. *Vilfa clandestina* (J. Biehler) Nees von Esenbeck ex E. von Steudel, *Nomenclator Botanicus*, ed. 2, 2:767. 1841. *Sporobolus clandestinus* (J. Biehler) A. Hitchcock, *Contributions of the U.S. National Herbarium* 12:150. 1908. *Sporobolus asper* (P. de Beauvois) K. Kunth var. *clandestinus* (J. Biehler) L. Shinnors, *Rhodora* 56:30. 1954. TYPE: UNITED STATES. Pennsylvania: *Muhlenberg 115* (TYPE: PH; Type Fragment: US).  
*Sporobolus canovirens* G. Nash in N. Britton, *Man.* 1042. 1901. *Sporobolus asper* (P. de Beauvois) K. Kunth var. *canovirens* (G. Nash) L. Shinnors, *Rhodora* 56:30. 1954. *Sporobolus clandestinus* (J. Biehler) A. Hitchcock var. *canovirens* (G. Nash) J. Steyermark & J. Kucera, *Rhodora* 63:24. 1961. TYPE: UNITED STATES. Kansas: St. George, 3 September 1890, *Kellerman* (TYPE: NY).

Kartesz & Gandhi (1995) reported that the basionym of *Sporobolus asper* [*Agrostis aspera* A. Michaux (1803)] is a later homonym and illegitimate, and that *Agrostis composita* J. Poiret is the earliest available name for this taxon. *Sporobolus clandestinus* (J. Biehler) A. Hitchcock and *S. compositus* (J. Poiret) E. Merrill are very similar morphologically. Riggins (1977) separated the two taxa by the following characters: *Sporobolus clandestinus* has sparsely, appressed, pubescent lemmas and a pericarp loose when moist, whereas, *S. compositus* has glabrous lemmas and a pericarp gelatinous when moist. We believe that this kind of morphological variation is best recognized at the variety level; thus making the above combination necessary.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to W.E. Fox (TAES) and Gretchen D. Jones (USDA, AWPMRU) for reviewing this manuscript.

## LITERATURE CITED

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- Riggins, R. 1977. A biosystematic study of the *Sporobolus asper* complex (Gramineae). *Iowa State Journal of Research* 51:287-321.